

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 09889 210401Z

10  
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-07 SAJ-01 SAM-01 CU-02 IO-13 OMB-01 /081 W  
----- 074951

R 210313Z AUG 76  
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1725  
INFO USLO PEKING  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
CINCPAC  
FBIS OKINAWA

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT CH  
SUBJECT: EARTHQUAKE BRINGS PROVINCIAL LEADERSHIP OUT

REF: HONG KONG 9836 AND HONG KONG 9750, 9222

1. BROADCASTS OVER SZECHWAN PROVINCIAL RADIO HAVE SHED NEW  
LIGHT ON THE EARTHQUAKE WHICH TOOK PLACE IN THE SUNGPAN-PINGWU  
AREA OF THE PROVINCE ON AUGUST 16. ONE CAST REPLAYING THE  
CENTRAL COMMITTEE'S COMFORT MESSAGE TERMED THE QUAKE "STRONG",  
AND ACKNOWLEDGED THAT "SOME LOSSES TO LIVES AND PROPERTY" HAD  
OCCURRED. THE CENTRAL CABLE FURTHER EMPHASIZED WHAT HAS NOW  
BECOME THE STANDARD LINE IN EARTHQUAKES, THAT DESPITE SETBACKS,  
THE POPULATION OF THE ROVINCE MUST CONTINUE TO TAKE CLASS STRUG-  
GLE AS THE KEY LINK AND CONTINUE CRITICISM OF TENG IN ORDER TO  
BE SUCCESSFUL IN QUAKE RLIEF. A MESSAGE OF SYMPATHY FROM THE  
SZECHWAN PROVINCIAL CCP AND REVOLUTIONARY

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PAGE 02 HONG K 09889 210401Z

COMMITTEES ON AUGUST 17, HOWEVER TOOK A LESS POLITICAL ORIENTED

APPROACH. WHILE THE CAMPAIGN IS MENTIONED, ITS ROLE IS COMBATTING EARTHQUAKES IS SUBORDINATED TO THE STRESS LAID ON LEARNING FROM THE ORGANIZATION AND DISCIPLINE SHOWN BY THOSE IN THE TANGSHAN-FENGNNAN AREA.

2. A DELEGATION WAS DISPATCHED TO THE AFFECTED AREA ON AUGUST 19 BY THE PROVINCIAL CCP AND WAS LED BY CCP FIRST SECRETARY CHAO TZU-YANG, IDENTIFIED IN HIS FIRST PUBLIC OUTING SINCE HE MET NEPALESE KING BIRENDA IN THENG TU ON JUNE 9. ALSO APPEARING AS A MEMBER OF THE DELEGATION WAS WEI PO-TING, BELIEVED TO BE THE SAME WEI PO-TING WHO PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS A DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE PLA GENERAL POLITICAL DEPARTMENT. ALTHOUGH IT HAS NOT BEEN CONFIRMED, WE FEEL THAT WEI PROBABLY BECAME A DEPUTY POLITICAL COMMISSAR OF THE CHENG TU MR IN LATE JANUARY, 1976. HE HAS MAINTAINED A LOW PROFILE, AND THERE IS NO RECORD OF HIS PUBLIC APPEARANCE SINCE JANUARY.

3. HE REAPPEARANCE OF CHAO TZU-YANG IS ANOTHER IN THE LONG LINE OF PROVINCIAL TURNOUTS WHERE TARGETTED LEADERS HAVE RETURNED TO VIEW TO REASSERT THEIR PROVINCIAL POWERS (HK9750,9122). YUNNAN PARTY FIRST SECRETARY CHIA CHI-YUN ALSO APPEARED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN OVER TWO MONTHS WHEN HE LED A YUNNAN RALLY ON AUGUST 18. IDENTIFIED WITH HIS TITLES OF PROVINCIAL CCP FIRST SECRETARY AND CHAIRMAN OF THE PROVINCIAL REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE, CHIA WAS INVOLVED IN THE YUNNAN COMMEMORATION OF THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY, OF THE FOUNDING OF THE RED GUARDS (HK9836), AN UNUSUAL ACTIVITY FOR A CULTURAL REVOLUTION PURGEE.

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## Message Attributes

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